

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 22, 2003

SENATE BILL

No. 987

Introduced by ~~Senator~~ Senators McPherson and Alpert
(Coauthors: Senators Denham, Morrow, Scott, Soto, and Speier)
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bates, Dutra, Lieber, Maldonado,
Maze, Plescia, Samuelian, Spitzer, Vargas, and Yee)

February 21, 2003

An act relating to the California missions, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 987, as amended, McPherson. California missions.

Existing law contains various provisions relating to historical and cultural resource projects and programs, including the development, restoration, and preservation of historical sites.

The California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002, a measure approved by the voters at the March 5, 2002, statewide general election (Proposition 40), authorizes, for the purposes of financing acquisition and development projects, the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$2,600,000,000. Of that amount, \$267,500,000 is available for appropriation by the Legislature for the acquisition, development, preservation, and interpretation of buildings, structures, sites, places, and artifacts that preserve and demonstrate culturally significant aspects of California's history and for grants for these purposes.

This bill would appropriate ~~\$10,000,000~~ ____ from those funds to the Department of Parks and Recreation for allocation as a grant to the California Missions Foundation, a charitable corporation. The bill would require these moneys to be used to support the efforts of the

foundation to restore and repair the California missions and to preserve the artworks and artifacts associated with the California missions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

3 (a) On July 16, 1769, Alta California's first Mission, San Diego
4 de Alcalá, was founded by Father Junipero Serra at San Diego.
5 Over the course of the next 54 years, Spanish settlers and native
6 Californians would endeavor to construct 21 missions along the El
7 Camino Real, concluding with the construction of Mission San
8 Francisco Solano, the last Alta California mission, which was
9 founded by Father Jose de Altimira on July 4, 1823.

10 (b) Because the Spanish friars and native peoples joined
11 together in the building of these settlements, the State of California
12 has been indelibly shaped and influenced by what they
13 accomplished in that most ambitious undertaking. From the
14 vineyards of Sonoma to the ranches of Santa Barbara and to the
15 adobe arcades and red tile roofs of San Diego, the missions have
16 left their mark on who we are and what we have become.

17 (c) The missions of California are California's most visited
18 historical attractions, and attract over 5 million visitors annually.
19 If the California missions are to be preserved, it is important that
20 the state act now to ensure that the rich legacy of mission history
21 is preserved for future generations.

22 (d) In 1888, Miss Tessa L. Kelso, librarian of Los Angeles City
23 Library, founded the Association for the Preservation of the
24 Missions, which was the first serious effort toward preserving the
25 Alta California missions. Over a century later, a similar effort has
26 been undertaken by the nonprofit, nonsectarian California
27 Missions Foundation to address the urgent need for repair and
28 restoration of the missions.

29 (e) The California Missions Foundation is a charitable
30 corporation established in 1998 to fund the restoration and repair
31 of the California missions and the preservation of the Spanish
32 colonial and mission-era artworks and artifacts of the California
33 missions. The foundation is exempt from franchise and income



1 taxes and is organized and operated exclusively for charitable
2 purposes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

3 (f) The list of potential preservation and restoration projects is
4 as diverse as the backgrounds of the people who originally built the
5 California missions. These treasures are important to us all, as is
6 the information gleaned from archaeological excavation and
7 study.

8 (g) Currently, nearly the entire California United States House
9 of Representatives and Senate delegation is sponsoring the
10 California Missions Preservation Act authorizing the Secretary of
11 the Interior to make ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) in grants to
12 the California Missions Foundation to support the efforts of the
13 California Missions Foundation to restore and repair the
14 California missions and to preserve the artworks and artifacts
15 associated with the California missions. As provided in Section
16 101(e)(4) of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C.
17 470a(e)(4)), the secretary shall ensure that the purpose of a grant
18 under this section is secular, does not promote religion, and seeks
19 to protect those qualities that are historically significant.

20 (h) The California Missions Preservation Act expressly
21 prohibits the disbursement of federal money for this project until
22 such time when the California Missions Foundation provides ten
23 million dollars (\$10,000,000) in matching funds for mission
24 restoration.

25 (i) Assembly Bill 716 of the 2001–02 Regular Session (Ch.
26 1126, Stats. 2002) codified that California’s historic missions are
27 among California’s most evocative historical structures and their
28 continued protection and restoration should continue to have high
29 priority.

30 SEC. 2. (a) Of the funds available for the purposes of Section
31 5096.652 of the Public Resources Code, ~~ten million dollars~~
32 ~~(\$10,000,000)~~ ____ is hereby appropriated from the California
33 Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal
34 Protection Fund, ~~erated~~ *created* pursuant to Section 5096.610 of
35 the Public Resources Code to the Department of Parks and
36 Recreation for allocation as a grant to the California Missions
37 Foundation to support the efforts of the California Missions
38 Foundation to restore and repair the California missions and to
39 preserve the artworks and artifacts associated with the California
40 missions. As provided in Section 101(e)(4) of the National

1 Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470a(e)(4)), the director
2 shall ensure that the purpose of the grant under this section is
3 secular, does not promote religion, and seeks to protect those
4 qualities that are historically significant.

5 (b) In order to receive the grant under this section for the
6 preservation of the California missions, the California Missions
7 Foundation shall submit to the Director an application that
8 includes both of the following:

9 (1) A status report on the condition of the infrastructure and
10 artifacts for each of the California missions.

11 (2) A comprehensive program for restoration, repair, and
12 preservation of the infrastructure and artifacts, including
13 prioritized preservation efforts to be conducted over a five-year
14 period and the estimated costs of the preservation efforts.

15 (c) As a condition of the grant under this section, the California
16 Missions Foundation shall submit to the director an annual report
17 on the status of the preservation efforts undertaken using grant
18 funds provided under this section. The director shall submit a copy
19 of each report to the Legislature.

